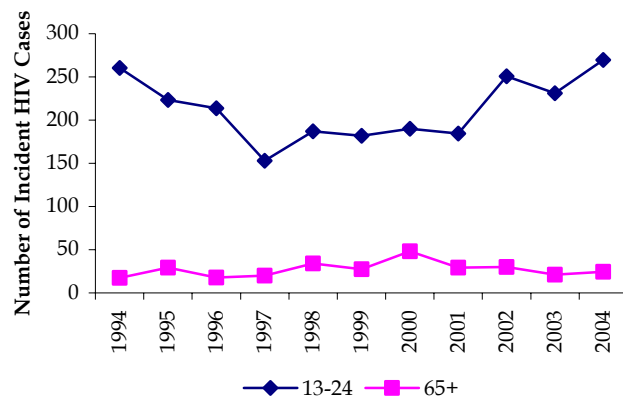


# HIV/AIDS AMONG THE YOUTH AND ELDERLY IN MARYLAND

## Youth and HIV/AIDS

- HIV incidence among youth (13-24 years of age) declined in the late 1990s but has been increasing in recent years (Figure 1). While HIV/AIDS rates among youth are low compared with adults aged 25-59, vulnerability in this population is high.
- Youth accounted for 13% of new HIV cases in Maryland in 2004. Incident HIV cases among youth are 61% male and 39% female. Among youth with a reported HIV risk category, the predominant mode of HIV transmission reported is heterosexual contact (51%), followed by MSM (39%) and injection drug use (10%).
- Youth accounted for 5% of new AIDS cases in Maryland in 2004. There were more male AIDS cases among youth than female cases (61% versus 39%). The majority of new AIDS cases among both male and female youth occurred among African-Americans (79% and 88%, respectively).
- Of the 29,123 Marylanders living with HIV/AIDS, 904 (3%) are youth ages 13-24. Of youth living with HIV/AIDS, 55% are male, and 45% are female. The majority of living cases among both males and females are African-American (86% of male cases and 85% of female cases). Half (50%) of youth living with HIV/AIDS are residents of Baltimore City and 27% are residents of Suburban Washington, D.C.
- The predominant risk factors among youth living with HIV/AIDS include heterosexual contact (33%) and MSM (26%). Injection drug use was reported less among youth living with HIV/AIDS (5%) on 12/31/2004 than among youth newly diagnosed with HIV (10%) in 2004.

Figure 1. HIV Incidence among Youth and Elderly by Year



## The Elderly and HIV/AIDS

- Of the 29,123 Marylanders living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2004, 628 (2%) are elderly (65 years and older). Of the elderly living with HIV/AIDS, 71% are male, 78% are African-American, 55% are residents of Baltimore City and 23% are residents of Suburban Washington, D.C.
- HIV incidence has remained steady among the elderly in Maryland since HIV reporting began in 1994 (Figure 1). The elderly accounted for 1% of new HIV cases in 2004. There were more new male HIV cases than new female cases in the elderly population (67% versus 33%) and more African-American HIV cases than white cases (81% versus 19%). Among elderly incident HIV cases with a reported risk category, the predominant mode of HIV transmission was heterosexual contact with a partner at known risk for HIV.
- The elderly accounted for 2% of incident AIDS cases in Maryland in 2004. Of those newly diagnosed AIDS cases among the elderly in 2004, 80% were African-American and 65% were male. Among elderly males newly diagnosed with AIDS in 2004, 85% were African-American and 15% were white. Among elderly females newly diagnosed with AIDS in 2004, 71% were African-American and 29% were white.